

Message Text

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ORIGIN STR-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 STRE-00 EB-08 L-03 COME-00
TRSE-00 OMB-01 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SS-15
NSC-05 ITC-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 /054 R

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EA/J DFSMITH
EB/ITP/STA TO'HERRON
-----260035Z 116147 /73
O 260010Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652:

TAGS: ETRD, JA

SUBJECT: TV NEGOTIATIONS

REF: STATE 088115

1. EMBASSY IS INSTRUCTED TO CONTACT GOJ TO ARRANGE SCHEDULE FOR NEXT SESSION OF TV NEGOTIATIONS. PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA AND AMBASSADOR STRAUSS DURING MEETING IN TOKYO AGREED ON DESIRABILITY OF COMPLETING NEGOTIATIONS BEFORE LONDON SUMMIT. AT WASHINGTON SESSION AMBASSADOR STRAUSS INVITED VICE MINISTER MASUDA TO RETURN AT EARLIEST MUTUALLY CONVENIENT TIME. WE HAVE NOT YET HAD A RESPONSE FROM GOJ. ONLY TIME NOW OPEN FOR STRAUSS BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FOR SUMMIT IS TWO-DAY WINDOW MAY 3-4. BECAUSE OF TIME CONSTRAINTS MEETING ON THOSE DATES WOULD HAVE TO TAKE PLACE IN U.S. HOWEVER, INTERIM TALKS WITH-
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OUT STRAUSS IF APPROPRIATE COULD BE HELD IN TOKYO OR OTHER MUTUALLY CONVENIENT LOCATION DURING FIRST WEEK OF MAY. NEXT AVAILABLE DATE FOR STRAUSS TO PARTICIPATE IN TALKS WOULD BE POST-SUMMIT, MAY 10.

2. FORM OF AGREEMENT. YOU MAY CONVEY THAT U.S. GOVERNMENT FEELS THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS ARE WITHIN REACH OF A MUTUALLY

SATISFACTORY SOLUTION. THE FORM AND LANGUAGE OF THE NOTES

AND SIDE LETTERS TO BE EXCHANGED HAVE BEEN AGREED UPON EXCEPT FOR A FEW DETAILS. FURTHER WORK TO BE DONE IN THIS AREA REVOLVES AROUND THE NEED TO DRAFT AN AGREEMENT THAT PERMITS THE VOLUNTARY RESTRAINT OFFERED BY THE GOJ TO ENJOY LEGAL STATUS AS AN ORDERLY MARKETING AGREEMENT UNDER THE TRADE ACT OF 1974. MUCH FLEXIBILITY HAS BEEN SHOWN BY BOTH NEGOTIATING TEAMS IN ARRIVING AT THE PRESENT LEVEL OF COMPROMISE ON THE VRA/OMA NEXUS.

3. COVERAGE. IT CAME TO LIGHT DURING THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS OF LAST WEEK THAT MANY (0.8 TO 1.2 MILLION AS ESTIMATED BY GOJ) "SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLETED TELEVISION RECEIVERS" WOULD NOT FALL INTO THE CATEGORY OF COMPLETE AND INCOMPLETE SETS AS ORIGINALLY DEFINED BY THE USITC AND AS INITIALLY DEFINED (SOMEWHAT MORE NARROWLY) BY THE GOJ NEGOTIATORS. THE USG THEN PROPOSED A BROADER DEFINITION THAT WE BELIEVE COULD SERVE AS A FRAMEWORK FOR FURTHER SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT STRONGLY FEELS THAT SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLETE RECEIVERS THAT REQUIRE LITTLE U.S. LABOR TO ASSEMBLE, ARE RIGHTLY THE SUBJECT OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS. HOWEVER THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS CLEARLY INDICATED IN THE NEGOTIATION, AND WISHES THE EMBASSY TO REITERATE, THAT THE U.S. OBJECTIVE IS

NOT, REPEAT NOT, TO RESTRICT EXISTING TRADE OF THE ITEMS INCLUDED AS "SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLETED TELEVISION SETS" BELOW CURRENT LEVELS. IF JAPANESE PRODUCERS PLAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EXPANSION OF TRADE IN THIS CATEGORY, USG IS WILLING TO NEGOTIATE ON ADDITIONAL VOLUMES TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE IMPACT ON DOMESTIC U.S. JOBS. IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT SOME JAPANESE FIRMS MAY BE PLANNING INVESTMENTS IN THE UNITED STATES BASED ON IMPORTS OF SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLETE RECEIVERS FOR FINAL ASSEMBLY HERE. APART FROM INCLUSION OF SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLETE SETS, U.S. REMAINS FLEXIBLE ON OTHER

UNRESOLVED ISSUES, INCLUDING RESTRAINT LEVELS.
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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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